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DOCKET NO.: K0448.70017US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takashi Ouchi et al.
Serial No.: 10/800,936
Confirmation No.: 1276
Filed: March 15, 2004
For: PAPERMAKING NEEDLE FELT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit: 1731

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 17 day of November, 2004.


Signature

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- PTO Form 1449 with cited references
- Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 646-8000, Boston, Massachusetts.

A check is not enclosed. If a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
Takashi Ouchi et al., Applicant

By: 
Neil P. Ferraro, Reg. No. 39,188
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
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Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: K0448.70017US00
Date: November 17, 2004
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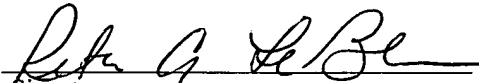
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STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed search report mailed August 23, 2004 from corresponding Application Number EP 04 00 8161, which is believed to explain the relevance of at least the non-English language references.

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

Where English language translations of the non-English language references have been provided, the translation is believed to show the relevance of the reference. Where no English language translation is available, but an English language abstract has been provided, the English language abstract is believed to explain the relevance to the extent known by Applicants. Where no English language abstract is available, the drawings are believed to show the relevance.

The following are remarks concerning the other information cited.

PART V: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

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By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Takashi Ouchi et al., Applicant

By: 

Neil P. Ferraro, Reg. No. 39,188
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600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				APPLICATION NO.: 10/800,936		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: K0448.70017US00	
				FILING DATE: March 15, 2004		CONFIRMATION NO.: 1276	
				APPLICANT: Takashi Ouchi et al.			
				GROUP ART UNIT: 1731		EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1				

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
	A1	3,573,089	A	Tate et al.	03-30-1971
	A2	4,464,431	A	Hisaki et al.	08-07-1984
	A3	4,594,286	A	McKinney et al.	06-10-1986

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
	A4	EP	0 367 738	A2	ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORP.	05-09-1990	N
	A5	EP	0 761 872	A1	ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORP.	03-12-1997	N
	A6	JP	09078458	A	DAI ICHI KOGYO SEIYAKU CO LTD	03-25-1997	Y

OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)

EXAMINER:	DATE CONSIDERED:
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. __, filed __, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed. Copies of all other patent(s), publication(s), or other information listed must still be provided, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]